

By: Ortiz, Jr.

H.B. No. 3161

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to advisory committees that recommend entities receive  
3 grants from the Texas Enterprise Fund and the Texas emerging  
4 technology fund.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Section 481.078, Government Code, is amended by  
7 amending Subsection (e) and adding Subsection (k) to read as  
8 follows:

9 (e) The administration of the fund is considered to be a  
10 trustee program within the office of the governor. The governor  
11 may negotiate on behalf of the state regarding awarding, by grant,  
12 money appropriated from the fund. The governor may award money  
13 appropriated from the fund only after receiving:

14 (1) [with] the express written [prior] approval of the  
15 lieutenant governor and speaker of the house of representatives;  
16 and

17 (2) a recommendation for the award from the advisory  
18 committee established under Subsection (k).

19 (k) The governor shall appoint an advisory committee to  
20 recommend entities to receive grants under this section. The  
21 governor shall determine the number of members of the committee and  
22 shall ensure that each region of this state is equally represented.  
23 Members of the advisory committee serve two-year terms, subject to  
24 the pleasure of the governor.

1 SECTION 2. Section 490.052, Government Code, as added by  
2 Chapter 280, Acts of the 79th Legislature, Regular Session, 2005,  
3 is amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

4 (e) In appointing individuals to the committee, the  
5 governor shall consider whether each region of this state is fairly  
6 represented by the committee.

7 SECTION 3. Section 490.056, Government Code, as added by  
8 Chapter 280, Acts of the 79th Legislature, Regular Session, 2005,  
9 is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

10 (c) The governor may award a grant under this chapter only  
11 on the recommendation of the committee.

12 SECTION 4. (a) The governor shall appoint the advisory  
13 committee as required by Section 481.078(k), Government Code, as  
14 added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2008.

15 (b) The change in law made by Section 481.078(e), Government  
16 Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a grant awarded on or  
17 after January 1, 2008.

18 SECTION 5. The change in law made by Section 490.056(c),  
19 Government Code, as added by this Act, applies only to a grant  
20 awarded on or after September 1, 2007.

21 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.